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Cont*

Result: IgE-binding to Bet v 1-monomer is inhibited by increasing concentrations of the Bet v 1-polymers in a dose dependent manner. The amounts of Bet v 1-polymers needed for inhibition at certain concentrations (50 ng versus 5 ng) was however approximately tenfold higher compared to the monomer.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 7, 10-13 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

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Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) An immunogen derived from a protein allergen, comprising:

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- a) a non-anaphylactic immunogenic recombinant fragment of the protein allergen, said fragment containing an IgG epitope partly but not wholly overlapping an IgE epitope of the protein allergen;
- b) a polymeric form of said fragment, in which form the fragment constitutes the monomeric units; or
- c) a non-anaphylactic recombinant polymeric form of said protein allergen having 2 to 10 monomeric units in which the protein allergen constitutes the monomeric units.

AS → 2. (Amended) The immunogen according to claim 1, wherein the polymeric form of said fragment is recombinantly produced.

AS 3. (Amended) The immunogen according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said monomeric units are separated from each other by an oligopeptide linker.

AS 4. (Amended) The immunogen according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said immunogen also contains a carrier for the fragment in (a) and the polymeric forms in (b) and (c), respectively.

5. (Amended) The immunogen according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the protein allergen is Bet v 1.

6. (Amended) The immunogen according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said immunogen is according to (b) or (c).

AS 8. (Amended) A method for in vitro diagnosis of type I allergy in a mammalian individual, comprising:
administering the immunogen according to claim 1 or 2 to said mammalian individual; and

measuring an immune reaction to said immunogen by said
mammalian individual.

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9. (Amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein the immunogen is according to (b) and (c).

14. (Amended) A method for the hyposensitization of a mammal suffering from IgE mediated allergy against a protein allergen, comprising the step of presenting the immune system of the mammal in vivo to an effective amount of an immunogen hyposensitizing the mammal against the allergen, wherein the immunogen comprises

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- a) a non-anaphylactic immunogenic recombinant fragment the protein allergen, said fragment containing an epitope partly but not wholly overlapping an IgE epitope of the protein allergen;
- b) a polymeric form of said fragment, in which form the fragment constitutes the monomeric units;
- c) a recombinant polymeric form of said protein allergen in which the protein allergen constitutes the monomeric units.

15. (Amended) The method according to claim 14, wherein the immunogen is a polymeric form of said fragment and is recombinantly produced.

16. (Amended) the method according to claim 14 or 15, wherein the immunogen is a polymeric form and that said monmeric units are separated from each other by a oligopeptide linker.

17. (Amended) The method according to claim 14 or 15, wherein said immunogen also contains a carrier for the fragment in (a) and the polymeric forms in (b) and (c), respectively.

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18. (Amended) The method according to claim 14 or 15, wherein the protein allergen is Bet v 1.

19. (Amended) The method according to claim 14 or 15, wherein the immunogen is according to (b) or (c).

20. (Amended) The method according to claim 19, wherein the number of monomeric units is an integer 2-10.

Please add the following claims:

--21. The immunogen of claim 3, wherein said oligopeptide linker comprises 1-30 amino acid residues.--

--22. The immunogen of claim 21, wherein said amino acid residues are hydrophilic.--

M --23. The method of claim 16, wherein said oligopeptide linker comprises 1-30 amino acid residues.--

--24. The method of claim 23, wherein said amino acid residues are hydrophilic.--